

DIRECTIONS
OF THE
Lords and Commons
Assembled in Parliament, 9

After advice had with the Assembly
of Divines, for the electing and choosing of
RULING-ELDERS in all the
Congregations, and in the Classicall
Assemblies for the Cities of *London*
and *Westminster*, and the severall
Counties of the Kingdom :
For the speedy settling of the
Presbyteriall-Government.

Die Martis, 19 Aug. 1645.

Ordered by the Lords Assembled in Parliament, That these
Directions for electing of Elders in particular Congre-
gations, and Classicall Assemblies, be forthwith printed and
published.

J.Brown, Cler. Parliamentorum.

LONDON,

Printed for *John Wright*, at the Kings head in the
Old-baily. August 20. 1645.

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Die Martis, 19 Augusti. 1645.

DIR E C T I O N S

FOR THE
Election of Elders.



1. That the Ruling Elders of a Parochiall and congregationall Eldership shall be chosen by the severall Ministers, and members of their Congregation respectively, being such as have taken the Nationall Covenant, and are not persons under age, nor servants that have no families.

2. That notice of such election, and of the day when it shall be given by the Minister in the publique Assembly the next Lords day but one before, and on that said Lords day a Sermon be preached preparatory to that weighty businesse.

3. That no man be chosen for a Ruling-Elder but onely for one Congregation, and that in the place where his most settled dwelling and im-
ploymont doth lie.

4. That it shall be lawfull for the Congrega-
tion respectively, or any other persons to exhi-
bite exceptions against any person elected as
aforesaid, touching the right of his election, or
touching matter of ignorance, or scandall, here-
after mentioned, within fourteene daies next
after the said election to such persons, Ministers,
and others, as shall be appointed by Authority
of Parliament, to receive the said exceptions,
which said persons shall have power to receive,
heare, and determine all complaints against any
Elder, of ignorance and scandall, within the de-
scription of ignorance and scandall hereafter-
mentioned.

And shall have power to approve the person
so elected, in case no just exception, as aforesaid,
shall be proved against him. But if he shall upon
just proofe be found ignorant or scandalous, as
aforesaid, then to remove him. And if any of the
said Elders shall be adjudged to be removed, as
aforesaid, then another shall be chosen in his
place, as aforesaid.

5. That

5. That such shal be chosen for Ruling-Elders as are men of good understanding in matters of Religion, sound in the faith, prudent, discreet, grave, and of unblameable conversation. And willing to undergoe the said Office.

6. That all Parishes and places what soever, (as well privileged places, and exempt jurisdictions, as others) be brought under the government of Congregationall, Classicall, Provinciall, and Nationall Assemblies. Provided, that the Chappells or places in the houses of the Peeres of this Realme shall continue free for the exercise of Divine duties, to be performed according to the Directory.

7. That the Chappell of the Rolles, the two Serjeants Innes, and the foure Innes of Court, shall be each of them a Congregationall Presbytery within themselves, and make a Classicall Presbytery in the whole.

8. That the Province of London shall be divided into twelve Classicall Elderships according to the distributions hereafter following :

The first Classis to containe :

A *Lhallowes Breadstreet, | Anne Blackfriars,
Andrews Wardrobe, | Austins parish,*

Bennet

Bennet Pauls wharfe,
Faiths,
Gregories,
John Evangelist,
Margaret Moses,
Martin Ludgate,

Mary Aldermarie,
Mary le Bow,
Matthew Fridaystreet,
Mildreds Breadstreet,
Pauls,
Peters Pauls wharfe.

The second Classis to containe :

Anthomes vulgo An-
thelms
Bennet Sherehogge,
James Garlickhithe,
John Baptists,
Martin in the Vintry,
Mary Magdalene old Fish-
street,
Mary Somerset,

Mary Mounthaupt vulgo
Mounthaw.
Michael Queene Hithe,
Michael Royall,
Nicholas old Abby,
Nicholas Olaves,
Pancret Soperlane,
Thomas Apostle,
Trinity Parish.

The third Classis to containe :

Alhallowes the greater,
Alhallowes the lesse,
Alhallowes Lumberstreet,
Edmunds Lumberstreet,
Lawrence Pountney,
Mary Abchurch,

Mary Bothaw,
Mary Woolchurch,
Mary Woolnotb,
Nicholas Aron,
Stephens in Walbrook,
Swithins,

The fourth Classis to containe :

Andrew Hubbert,
 Bennet Grace-church,
 Buttolph Billingsgate,
 Clements in Eastcheape.
 Dionis Backchurch,
 George Buttolph-lane,
 Leonard in Eastcheape,

Magnus,
 Margaret New-fishstreet,
 Martin Orgars,
 Marybill,
 Michael Crookedlane,
 Michael Cornhill,
 Peters Cornhill.

The fifth Classis to containe :

Anne Aldersgate,
 Buttolph Aldersgate,
 Brides,
 Bridewell,
 Christichurch,
 John Zachary,
 Leonard Fosterlane,

Mary Staynings,
 Michael in the Cornie,
 vulgo Querne,
 Olaves Silverstreet,
 Peters Cheape,
 Pedast alias Fosters.

The sixth Classis to containe :

Albanes Woodstreet,
 Alballoxes Honi-lane,
 Alphage,
 Giles Creeplegate,
 James Chappell
 Laurence in the Jury,
 Martin in Irevongerlane

Mary Aldermanbury,
 Marymandins Milkstreet
 Mary Colechurch,
 Michael in Woodstreet,
 Mildred in the Poultry,
 Olives in the Jewry,

The seventh Classis to containe :

*Alhallowes by the Wall,
Bartholmew Exchange,
Bennet Fynck,
Buttolph Bishopsgate,
Christophers,*

*Margaret Lothbury,
Michael Bashimshaw,
Peter poore,
Stevens Colemanstreet.*

The Eight Classis to containe :

*Andrew Undershaft,
Buttolph Algate,
Ethelburge,
Hackney,
Hellens,
James Dukes-place,*

*Katherine Cree-church,
Leonard Shoreditch.
Martins Oteswick, vulgo
Outwich.
Mary Newington, alias
Soke Newington.*

The ninth Classis to containe :

*Alhallowes Barkin,
Alhallowes Staniings,
Dunstans in the East,
Gabriel Fenchurch,
Katherine Coleman,
Katherine Tower,
Margaret Pattons,*

*Olaves Hartstreet,
Peters in the Tower,
Stepney,
Trinity Minories,
Wapping,
White chappell.*

The tenth Classis to containe :

George Southwarke,
Lambeth,
Mary Magdalen
Bermondsey,
Mary Overs,

Newington Butts,
Olives Southwarke,
Rotherhithe vnlgo Redriff
Thomas Hospitall,
Thomas Southwarke,

The eleventh Classis to containe :

Clement's Danes,
Giles in the Fields,
Knightsbridge,
Margarets Westminster,
Martins in the Fields.

Newchurch,
Peters Westminster,
Pauls chappell in covent
Garden.

The twelfth Classis to containe :

Andrew Helburne,
Bartholmew the greater,
Bartholmew the leſſe,
Chaterhouse,

Dunstones in the West,
James Carkenwell,
Mary Islington,
Sepulchers.

9. That all the Severall Parishes and Places
within the Cities of London and Westminster,
and the parts adjacent, according as they are
distinguished into twelve severall Classis, shall
be

be the extent and bounds of the Province of London.

*Concerning the members of the Classicall and Congre-
gationall Assemblies in the severall counties.*

THAT in the severall Counties certaine persons, Ministers, and others, shall be appointed by authority of Parliament, who shall consider how their severall Counties respectively may be most conveniently divided into distinct classicall Presbyteries, and what Ministers and others are fit to be of each Clasis. And they shall accordingly make such division, and nomination of persons for each classicall Presbytery, which Divisions, and persons so named for every Division shall be certified up to the Parliament. That the Chancellors, Vice-chancellors, and heads of the Universities shall consider how the Colledges may be most conveniently put into clas- sicall Presbyteries, and doe certifie the same up unto the Parliament.

And the said severall Classes respectively being approued by Parliament within their severall Precincts shall have power to constitute Congregationall Elderships where a competent number of persons so qualified for Elders, as a- fore-

foresaid, shall be found. And where no persons shall be found fit to be Elders, as aforesaid, then that Congregation shall be immediately under the Classicall Presbytery, untill that congregation shall be enabled with members fit to be Elders, as aforesaid.

The congregationall Assembly shal meet once every weeke, and oftner if occasion shall serve.

The classicall Assembly shall meet once every moneth.

Concerning members of the Provinciall Assembly.

THe Provinciall Assembly shall be constituted of members sent from every Classis within the Province.

The number of the members sent from each Classis shall be so proportioned, as that the Provinciall Assembly may be more in number then any Classicall Presbytery within that Province. And to that end there shall be at least two Ministers, and foure Ruling-Elders out of every Classis. And that where there shall be need, the number may be increased, as to the persons appointed for the bounding of the Provinciall Assembly shall seem meet. Provided, that the number

number doe not exceed nine of each , Ministers and Ruling-Elders , from any one Classis. And that there be alwaies two Ruling-Elders to one Minister. That the Provinciall Assembly being constituted, shall meet twice every yeere, the first meeting shall be determined by the persons appointed for the bounding of the Provinciall and Classicall Assemblies.

Concerning the Nationall Assembly.

That the Nationall Assembly shall be constituted of members sent from the severall Provinces aforesaid, the number of the members from each Province to the Nationall Assembly shall be two Ministers, and foure Ruling-Elders. The Nationall Assembly is to meet when they shall be summoned by Parliament, and to sit and continue as the Parliament shall order , and not otherwise.

FINIS.

